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For me, Chapter 4 offers many interesting ideas on how philosophy has had an impact on education throughout time. After reading the chapter, the section on “schools of philosophy and their influence on education” stood out to me more than the others. In this section, it examines how idealism, realism, pragmatism and existentialism have differing views on what should be taught and how it should be taught. Of those four schools, pragmatism was most interesting to me because I feel it should be incorporated into the school systems. According to the book, this school tells us that the most important thing is the ability to question and how to change our minds as the world is constantly changing. As for teachers, they should be teaching their students through investigations and instead of subject by subject, looking at them as a whole to problem solve.

In relation to the way schools approach teaching students, I think this concept is not heavily relied on. However, as I have talked about before, I can relate to this because much of my elementary schooling was done through life experiences rather than learning each subject or idea separately. In addition to pragmatism, existentialism also is key but is not something widely pushed in public schools. This concept focuses on the process of becoming oneself and drives away from social norms. Thinking about standardized testing and set classes for all students throughout grade school, it is impossible for students to become whom they truly are with how rule-oriented public schools are. All together, I found this chapter extremely interesting in looking at different ways to approach schooling and helping each student to grow as an individual, not as a whole.